

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 05825 140911Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-10
NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01
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O R 140906Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5106
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 05825

PASS ELECTRONICALLY TO COMMERCE FOR MACONE

USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD, EMIN, ILZSG
SUBJECT: LEAD AND ZINC: EC POSITION OF INTERNATIONAL
LEAD AND ZINC STUDY GROUP (ILZSG), APRIL
17-18, 1978

1. THE AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVE TO THE FORTHCOMING
INTERNATIONAL LEAD AND ZINC STUDY GROUP (ILZSG) MEETING
PROVIDED THE U.S. DEL TO TIN MEETING WITH THE FOLLOWING
VERSION OF THE EC POSITION FOR THE ILZSG MEETING.

2. THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE EXPECTED EC
POSITION: AT THE APRIL 6 MEETING OF THE EC RAW
MATERIALS COUNCIL A SYSTEM OF TARGET PRICES, WHICH HAD
PREVIOUSLY BEEN UNDER CONSIDERATION WAS RULED OUT. IN
ADDITION, THE IMPORTER INTEREST OF MEMBERS WAS STRESSED
WHILE THE ARGUMENT THAT THERE IS A MAJOR STRUCTURAL
PROBLEM IN THE EUROPEAN ZINC INDUSTRY WAS REJECTED.

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PAGE 02 LONDON 05825 140911Z

3. THE GROUP AGREED ON AN AD REFERENDUM BASIS TO THE
FOLLOWING PACKAGE:

-- AT A STAFF LEVEL THE EC SET DESIRABLE
PRODUCTION LEVELS FOR 1978 AND 1979, ALLOWING FOR A
NORMAL LEVEL OF IMPORTS AND A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN

STOCKS, WHICH WOULD LEAVE A NET FIGURE FOR EEC PRODUCTION OF SOME 1 MILLION TONNES;

-- THAT LEVEL WOULD BE JOINTLY RECOMMENDED BY GOVERNMENTS (NO SANCTIONS TO APPLY EXCEPT FOR MORAL PRESSURE);

-- THE EC WOULD THEN BE IN A POSITION, AFTER THE AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION REPORT EXPECTED JUNE 20, TO SAY TO THE U.S. THAT THEY HAD UNDERTAKEN REMEDIAL MEASURES VOLUNTARILY AND THAT UNILATERAL ACTION AGAINST IMPORTS BY THE U.S. WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE; AND

-- THE EEC WOULD MAKE DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIONS TO KEY EXPORTERS (SIC) TO THE COMMUNITY TO "MODERATE IMPORTS TO A GIVEN LEVEL", (THAT LEVEL IS STILL AN OPEN QUESTION, BUT THE UK ASSURES AUSTRALIA THAT IT, AT LEAST, WOULD STRONGLY OPPOSE ANY ONEROUS REDUCTIONS)

4. THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED US BY THE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY IN LONDON, AND HAS NOT YET BEEN CONFIRMED.

5. COMMENT. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE INFORMATION WAS GIVEN THE AUSTRALIANS BY THE UK.

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PAGE 03 LONDON 05825 140911Z

BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

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